

THE PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY

CONTENTS.

MAY, 1868.

Church Erection.....	97
Home Missionary Intelligence.....	100
Advance Step in Foreign Missions.....	107
Ministerial Relief Fund.....	111
A Vital Question.....	111
The Publication Work.....	112
Our Own Publications.....	114
Young Men Receiving Aid.....	115
Biddle Institute.....	115
Notice.....	116
Notes on New Books.....	116
Home Mission Appointments.....	118
Donations to Home Missions.....	119
Donations to the Publication Cause.....	119
Education Acknowledgments.....	120

PHILADELPHIA:

PRESBYTERIAN HOUSE, 1334 CHESTNUT STREET.

NEW YORK:

PRESBYTERIAN ROOMS,
150 Nassau Street.

FORMS OF BEQUEST.

1. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the *Church Erection Fund* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated March 31st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of _____ dollars, for the purpose of aiding feeble congregations in connection with the General Assembly in erecting houses of worship.

2. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, incorporated April 21st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended under the direction and for the appropriate uses of the *Publication Committee* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

3. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, incorporated April 21st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended by them for the appropriate uses of the *Ministerial Relief Fund* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

4. I give and bequeath to the *Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated April 17th, 1858, by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended for the education of pious young men for the Gospel ministry.

5. I give, devise, and bequeath to the Presbyterian Committee of *Home Missions*, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, April 18th, 1862, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended for the appropriate objects of said Incorporation.

6. I give and bequeath to the Permanent Committee on *Foreign Missions* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, April 17th, 1865, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended for the appropriate objects of said Incorporation.

THE
PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY.

VOL. III.

MAY, 1868.

No. 5.

Church Erection.

"A City Set on a Hill."

It "cannot be hid," nor will it soon pass away. What form of benevolence can be more attractive to a thoughtful mind than that which establishes permanent institutions for the advancement of the truth? Men realize sometimes that they themselves are to die. The thought comes over them at intervals with such power as to make things appear utterly vain and unsatisfactory. "For what hath man of all his labor and of the vexation of his heart wherein he hath labored under the sun." And in this deep sense of transitoriness we naturally reach forth for something permanent.

The tenure of our property hangs by the brittle thread of life, or if left to our children we know not whether it will prove a blessing or a curse. In this country, and under the prevailing habits of society at the present time, great wealth is oftener a curse than a blessing to those who inherit it. Even during one's own life he is sometimes greatly perplexed to know how to invest the gains he has acquired, since everything seems so transient and insecure.

Laboring under this sense of the vanity of life many persons, and especially those who are drawing toward the end, are moved to appropriate their means in greater or less degree to objects of charity. There can be no mistake or risk, it is thought, in doing good. Beneficence in every form is God's own work, and He will care for it and make it fruitful of happiness to His creatures. Kindness and generosity never bring regrets. The remembrance of them is as a healing balm in the dying hour.

But some charities are transient in their results—others are lasting, imperishable forever. Some are merely passive effects produced—others

are self-perpetuating forces which will continue to act long after the author of them has gone to his reward.

It is common, therefore, for those who give largely to prefer some object which is permanent. Thus many of our princely benefactors have founded asylums and institutions of learning by very large outlays concentrated upon a single object. Thoughtful and far-seeing men like what they call a "Monumental Charity," something that is definite and tangible and lasting. Transferring this same principal from an educational to a religious sphere, we may find abundant opportunity for the use of money in rearing Christian churches in the destitute parts of our country. They are God's own temples, and therefore an unquestionable good.

Mere education, mere knowledge is power, but it may be a power of evil. The power of the gospel, however, is always good.

A church moreover is something definite. None can mistake its meaning. Far as its gleaming spire can be seen it speaks to the beholder of God and heaven. It is also permanent. Generations will pass in and out of its gates. Long after its builders have ceased to act their part on the earth, the temple which they reared will continue to gather their fellow men around its altars.

It is also self-perpetuating. If time and decay waste the particular structure, it will not be till after friends have been drawn about it who will renew or wholly replace it. It is the surest sort of a phoenix, and will ever rise anew from its own decay.

The spoken word of a colporteur is a blessing to any thirsty soul in a new settlement. A tract or a Bible left in a frontier cabin will perhaps lead some straying sinner to Christ. A temporary Sabbath-school organized at some cross roads will make itself felt for good, a year's preaching by a missionary in private dwellings or school houses may lead to the saving of precious souls; but with all these a *permanent institution* has not yet been formed. With the removal of a superintendent or a preacher the work may gradually disappear. A mere organization may be swept away by the shifting tides of population, or be disintegrated and absorbed in other churches.

Whoever, therefore, would lay solid foundations must rear an altar, form a centre, around which shall be crystalized and preserved all the increments of influence which the successions of populations contribute and leave.

And there is still another reason which renders the grand benevolence of church building peculiarly attractive. It lies within the power of men of moderate means. It may require thousands of dollars to found a college or an academy, but *five hundred dollars* will, with the self-help of the people, build a Christian church. This great land is to be filled with them—the call is great and emphatic—and yet how many thousands are there in our wealthy churches each of whom might compass

this object? Churches or clubs of young men, who are not wealthy, can also do this work. A Sabbath-school in Western New York is undertaking to build one, and perhaps two, churches on the frontier.

Who will join in the blessed cause?

NEBRASKA.

From Omaha, Nebraska, the Rev. F. M. Dimmick writes to Dr. Ellinwood.

I received your letter a short time since, asking about the destitution of this Western field in the way of church edifices. In reply I would state very briefly, that they need immediately a small church building at Decatur, Nebraska, (seventy miles above Omaha,) where there was a church organized a few weeks since, with a membership of from ten to fifteen, under the care of Rev. J. M. Peebles, who is doing a good work there, and giving general satisfaction. With a donation of a few hundred dollars they will be able to go forward at once and build.

At St. Johns and Woodbine, on the Iowa side of the river, and on the line of the Chicago Northwestern Railroad, we should have churches soon if we hold these fields for Christ.

Cheyenne, over *five hundred* miles west of Omaha, and only six months old, boasts a population of five thousand people. We must certainly have a church edifice in that city the coming summer. And from Omaha to Cheyenne—a distance greater than from New York to Cleveland—between these two cities, on the Union Pacific Railroad, there are many places which should be taken possession of and fortified against the enemy by these citadels of God.

A tide of immigration is rolling westward over these prairies, and this spring, in a great measure, these valleys will be filled with people with no religious and educational privileges. What is to be done for them? How many laborers for Christ can be put into this great field, already ripe for the harvest? Is there money in your hands, and are there men in Dr. Kendall's, or at his disposal, to meet, to any degree, the great wants *here*, as well as elsewhere?

As far as our own city is concerned we feel very much encouraged. We have recently organized a very efficient Young Men's Christian Association, and from the way they are taking hold of Christian work, we trust they will do very much for the moral and religious improvement of this city. We expect to get into our own church edifice in August, where we shall find more breathing room, and better accommodations. Our church is an instance of what might have been saved and gained to our denomination, if formerly, as now, there had been some discretionary power left in the hands of our Church Erection Committee. If we had received one thousand dollars in 1861, which we tried hard to get, we should have saved over three thousand dollars to our church, and most probably have paid back in contributions the one thousand before this time, and to-day have been a much stronger church than we are.

We trust that hereafter, under our more perfect organization for home work, we shall, as a denomination, move on more rapidly and strongly.

There is no limit to the religious wants of this Western field. Our spring is opening encouragingly. We have had a pleasant winter. Our river is now free from ice, boats are running, and trade is putting on its accustomed briskness. Our streets are thronged with the activity of its own enterprises, and with the constantly arriving visitors looking for business and for homes. Amid all this wonderful energy in material interests Christians must also work with multiplied earnestness, or the cause of their Master will fall into the background, or be swallowed up in the whirlpool of speculation. "Come over and help us" then, that this land may be taken possession of for Christ.

Home Missionary Intelligence.

NEW YORK.

Rev. C. Smith, Portland.

"A Precious Revival of Religion."

I had invited the Rev. Mr. Miller, pastor of the Baptist church in this place, and his people, to unite with us during the Week of Prayer. The invitation was responded to very cordially. At the close of that week it was clearly our duty to continue the meetings. We have done so until now, and are going on with them yet, with continually increasing encouragement. We are in the midst of a precious revival of religion. The spirit has been poured out and is with us, and sinners are being converted to God. I cannot particularize in this communication, having my hands, head, and heart full. The whole responsibility of preaching devolves on me, and I have preached every evening save one for the last three weeks.

Every thing thus far goes to show that the work is genuine and thorough, in other words, a work of the Spirit using his own instrument, the truth, and working through the agency of his people. Nothing of sensationalism has showed itself, nor would it be tolerated if it did. No appeals have been indulged in which addressed themselves to the mere animal excitabilities; but the truth has addressed itself largely to the sinner's conscience and reason. The object has been to make him see and feel that he was a sinner, lost and undone; and then to turn his view to Christ his only deliverer. Some of the meetings are awfully solemn. The sermon is immediately succeeded by an inquiry-meeting, at which it is common for the entire congregation to remain.

How many cases of hopeful conversion there have been we are not yet asking ourselves. The work seems to be moving grandly on, and we are hoping and praying that it may sweep into the churches, twenty-five into my this beautiful town. New cases of in-

quiry and anxiety are developing themselves every day. The meeting on Sabbath evening was one of the most intensely interesting I ever attended.

Interesting Cases.

Some of the cases of conversion are of a peculiarly interesting character. Among these I might mention the case of a middle-aged Scotchman and wife, both very intelligent—the wife a woman of superior talent; the husband having an abundance of it, full of travel-knowledge, once a temperance lecturer, since that intemperate and wild, with Sherman in his great march, &c. Another, a young man of fine scholarship, and a leader in every kind of wickedness. Another, the daughter of a Universalist, a very attractive and cultivated young lady. Satan is, of course, busy, and sent us last week a lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology, with attractive illustrative oil paintings. The course embraced nine lectures, and part of the time was directly across the street from us, but we could not see that it affected our congregations. We are full of hope. May I not say our faith is strong? Accept of this as a report, and forget not to pray for us.

INDIANA.

Rev. W. N. Steel, Williamsport.

A Church Organized—"Incessant Pleasant Labor."

I would now report a second quarter's work as missionary at Alamo and vicinity. I have organized the church at Alamo that was spoken of when the appointment was made. We organized then with fourteen members, and have since received ten, with strong assurance of several more. The last three months has been a time of incessant pleasant labor. I have preached sixty-three times since December 1st, 1867, and have received forty-two members into the churches, twenty-five into my own churches, with a strong hope of

a considerable addition during this month yet. The work is advancing hopefully in all the points where I labor. We must now grapple with the question of building a house of worship at Alamo.

MICHIGAN.

Rev. E. B. Miner, Big Rapids.

Hopeful Field of Labor--Church and Sunday-school Organized.

I came here to explore, find material, and organize as fast as possible. Before the end of January, 1868, we had a prayer-meeting each week, a social and mite society once in two weeks, and but for reasons purely providential should have had a church and Sunday-school. Brother Clark, our Synodical Missionary, is now here, and will organize a church before he leaves, as appointments to that effect are already made. There are somewhere from fifteen to twenty here who ought to come and unite with us, but some of them are not in condition to do so now.

As to the elements for a society here, we enjoy a great advantage. There is no doubt that the best portion of this place is with us; some from choice of us, some because we are the nearest to what they want. I have never been in any place where we have had so much refinement and wealth in our Society as here. Much of it is devoted to the world, and could it be consecrated to the Lord we should never ask for another dollar from your treasury. The men of business here are in the prime of life, most of them being between thirty and forty-five, probably four-fifths of them all, and if we could see them truly converted to Christ, there would be a church here that would make glad the heart of any Christian.

A Growing Town.

There is probably no young town in Michigan that is growing faster than this at the present time. There is no doubt that we are going ahead, and that the Presbyterian Church now holds the first place as a religious organization, in the regards of the people. The

people here begin to say, "This place is large enough to have a minister of its own, and to keep him all the time." *And yet what shall be done with Heesey?* True, it is but a small place now, but its prospects are good. A physician who came here eight years ago says, "There is more of Heesey now than there was of Big Rapids then." The proprietor of the place never goes to meeting unless it be a funeral. He is, however, a thorough temperance man; he allows no intoxicating drinks sold in the hotel, of which his brother-in-law is proprietor, nor in any part of the village. He has built above the store a room on purpose for religious services, and it is used by myself and a Methodist Episcopal brother. His wife is an excellent woman, deeply interested in religious matters, though not a professing Christian; and he offers to buy a melodeon for the hall if she will play it there for a year. She accepts, and says at the end of the year she will give it to the church. Her mother unites with us for the present.

Another Man Wanted.

Mr. — also offers a large lot for a church and parsonage, together *with all the lumber needed to build them both*, if we will organize and build, and is willing that his wife shall unite with a Presbyterian church. Now it seems to me that such a point and such an opening should be regarded by us; and yet it seems too far distant for me to do there what ought to be done, and at the same time look after matters at Big Rapids properly. *I therefore submit whether it should not be the object of our Committee to send another man to this mission very soon.*

We must be aggressive. If we hold the ground we shall have it.

We held a meeting on Saturday afternoon preliminary to organizing a church. The preliminary steps were taken, and yesterday we completed our organization, consisting of thirteen members, elected and ordained two elders, &c. Brothers C. Clark and Louis Mills were with us. It was a good day. Our

whole morning congregation staid to witness it. After the communion we also organized a Sunday-school. There were about twenty pupils to begin with.

ILLINOIS.

Rev. O. A. Kingsbury, Joliet.

A Church Building Dedicated Free of Debt.

It becomes my duty to make now my report for the first quarter of my second year of service under your Committee. I am very glad to be able to give a report of so prosperous a state of things as there is among us in temporal matters. I wish I could say as much in regard to our spiritual affairs.

Since my last report we have dedicated our new house of worship, and have been enjoying the luxury of meeting in a church, instead of in temporary accommodations. Our church is a very substantial, pleasant, attractive structure. When we finish off the basement it will be complete in all the requirements for church and Sabbath-school purposes. And what is best about it is, that we are *free of debt*. The six hundred dollars voted us by the Church Erection Committee puts us where we can see through to daylight. Several of the brethren, who have borne the burden of the work, will have to put their hands pretty deeply into their pockets again. But, though some of them can't see just where they are going to get the money, they are not going to let the church be indebted. So this timely aid lifts a large burden from our shoulders.

The Church Better than the Court House.

Our Sabbath congregations have been very much larger since we got into the church. It is within bounds, I think, to say that they will average a third more. And these are, for the most part, permanent comers. They have taken pews, and so feel a pecuniary interest at least. They want their money's worth. Quite a number have taken seats with us who have not been attendants at any church, at least not with any regularity. We are reaching thus

just the class that we had in mind when the church was organized, viz., those who have been habitual neglecters of the sanctuary. It was feared that by our building on the west side of the river we should lose some of those who attended with us at the Court House, but who lived in the east part of the town. We have not lost a single family. Some who live farthest from the church seem most attached. We have been canvassing our part of the town to some degree, and shall do more of the work in the future. We mean to try to reach all who are at present not connected with any congregation.

Along with the growth of our congregation, has been the growth of our Sabbath-school. I think, since we entered the church our attendance will average seventy-five. This is a decided increase. A good deal of the time during the past quarter I have had myself the charge of the Sabbath-school. The superintendent was obliged to lay by for a time through a failure of voice. I have enjoyed this work very much, although it has been a considerable additional labor. I am intending to introduce Sabbath-school concerts, which I think can be made interesting and profitable.

We observed the Week of Prayer, and though our meetings were quite well attended, and very good in some respects, there was no marked interest. All the churches in the city seem to be in a very cold state. Oh, for an outpouring of the Spirit! That is our only hope.

At our communion season in January, the first in the church, two persons united with us on certificate. Three stand propounded to unite at the next communion on profession of faith. We have just dismissed three members, one of them one of our elders, who have removed from the place. We were very sorry to give them up.

MINNESOTA.

Rev. Thos. Campbell, Shakopee.

An Interesting Communion Season.

Amid the difficulties and embarrassments which beset me on coming here, and which, three months ago, had entirely disappeared; there was a bright gleam of sunshine, which filled me with hope; the most efficient and devoted of the membership were entirely in sympathy with me, and ready heartily to co-operate. At our first communion, you were notified that six united with us, all of them heads of families, that the church was strengthening, the Sabbath-school becoming interesting, and evidently a spirit of union was growing between the divided sections of the church. The blessing of the Lord has been continued to us, and our prosperity has been enlarged. Our congregation had been increasing through the season, but it was reserved for the first Sabbath of October to witness an assembly in our little church, the like of which, many said, had never been witnessed within its walls before. This was the occasion of our second communion. Eleven were to be received to membership, and to partake with us of the symbols of the body and blood of our Lord; four of these for the first time, having just professed Christ. The occasion was one of great solemnity and rejoicing. Through twelve or thirteen years of its history our church has had no such addition as this. The house was full, some going away for want of seats. Seventeen have now been added to us since May, fourteen of whom are heads of families, and of real value to us in the matter of pecuniary support.

Silent Influence of the Spirit.

There is no especial working of the Spirit outwardly manifest, but a silent influence seems to pervade many hearts, and there exists with some a preparedness to receive counsel concerning their spiritual interests, brought about generally, perhaps, by a plain and searching presentation of truth upon the Sabbath. In this state of things it is natu-

ral there should be, as there is, much more harmony in feeling and action than formerly. I said to myself in the beginning, "*Build up the church in spirituality and numbers and it is safe.*" My energies have been bent to accomplish this. I see to-day little or none of the evil effects of division. Not long after our last sacramental season we elected two additional elders, (having had only one previously), a thing we could not have done three months ago. They were chosen with great unanimity. We have reason to be unfeignedly thankful to the great Head of the Church for so much of divine favor as has been granted us. We feel continually increasing strength.

How to make the Sunday-school Attractive.

The Sunday-school has also been growing in attraction. It is now in complete working order, furnished newly with library, singing books and papers, partly by purchase, and partly by donation. We have a system of selected lessons on printed sheets for the year, which are explained and enforced by the superintendent. A Missionary Society for the cultivation of the children's benevolence has been formed, and embraces all the classes, which have their appropriate names, and mottoes, and treasurers. And then we have established the Monthly Sunday-school Concert, which is deeply interesting to children and people. Our class treasurers at these times report, and the funds thus collected, we hope, will make us independent of all external aid in Sunday-school matters. Besides these things, I have secured for the children an excellent leader in singing. Against thirty in early summer, we now have over eighty scholars. I take upon myself the labor of superintending the school, that it may be made as effective as possible. The result thus far has more than justified all the extra effort. We are teaching the children to love the Sunday-school by making it attractive to them. And we are teaching effectively, I trust, by pulpit minis-

trations, visiting, and Sunday-school labor, some of that element which has hitherto been shy, or altogether avoided religious influences. That the good hand of God may be upon us to increase the efficiency of our labors we earnestly pray.

IOWA.

Rev. Stephen Phelps, Waterloo.

Church Building.

The new church is almost ready for use. The painters are at work. We expect to be able to dedicate about Thanksgiving day—would be sooner but that our painters have so many other buildings on their hands that they cannot work uninterruptedly at the church.

We shall have at least eight hundred dollars to raise on or before the day of dedication. We do not intend to dedicate until all is provided for.

We have a neat, comfortable, substantial brick church. The furniture for it is all here. We will not at present put a bell in the steeple, but I think will do so in the spring, possibly before.

As soon as practicable, I desire that a chapel be built in the rear of the church for prayer-meetings and other uses.

[At a later date Mr. Phelps speaks of his church being in a revived condition, and that they now occupied their new place of worship.]

We are holding a prayer-meeting each afternoon at three o'clock, and a preaching, prayer and conference service each evening, and with encouragement. We have had within the last month an addition of nine members, only one of them by letter, and there are several others that I hope will soon come into church membership. Our church is in a revived state spiritually, and I look this week for many conversions in our congregation.

Our congregations have increased since we entered our new house of worship, and seem to be yet steadily increasing. Our Sabbath-school has also grown and is growing.

MISSOURI.

Rev. S. G. Clark, Holden.

Great Efforts to Build Churches--Another Church Organized.

In Holden, there have been no additions to the church the past quarter, but next Sabbath is our communion and we expect to receive several by letter. Our congregation is steadily increasing, and I think there is a growing interest in the church; still there is every where on this field a disposition to throw off responsibility. Our church edifice is not yet seated, but the work is progressing slowly and we hope to have it ready to dedicate without debt the last of this month or the first of next. The people here have paid the one hundred dollars they promised towards my support. Having their church built and paid for, they will be able to do much more towards the support of the gospel in future. With the Divine blessing, I do not see why it may not become self-supporting in three or four years.

A Man Needed.

In Harrisonville, our congregation has slightly increased during the past quarter, but other denominations have the start of us; and having preaching only once a month we can hardly hold our own. There are, however, some things to encourage. Some few of the unconverted are feeling a deeper interest in religious matters and are very anxious to have me, or some other minister, come and live with them and take the county as a field of labor. A family of Presbyterians has just moved into the township, though nearly three miles from the village, and we, of course, expect them to unite with us. Please send us a good, strong man for that place. If you can, I have no doubt there will be a brighter future for our church in that county.

Noble Work.

In Butler, we had an addition of five to our little church, the fourth Sabbath of last month. Four of these were by letter and one on profession. Up to this time the church there has consisted

of only four, two young men, and two ladies whose husbands are not professors of religion. They have been, and still are very weak in numbers and pecuniary strength and have only raised for my support forty dollars. I have traveled on horseback over eleven hundred miles during the past year to minister to that little church, and my traveling expenses and wear of clothing have exceeded the amount received, and yet I feel that no part of my labor has been better expended. They have raised a subscription of two thousand dollars towards building a church, have a Sabbath-school of over one hundred members. They will not be able to do much the next year towards the support of the minister, for it will severely tax them to build.

Yet Another Church.

I am happy to be able to report the organization of another little church in Hudson, a little village in the eastern part of Bates county, on the railroad now building between Sedalia and Fort Scott. We organized with seven members, two males and five females. There is no church organization within six miles. There is no church or even school house that we can occupy. They are making a great effort to raise funds to build a little church.

A CHRISTIAN UNION OF POLITICAL ANTAGONISTS.

A missionary in the South gives the following interesting account of those who had, during the war, been for and against the Government, uniting cordially in the advancement of the cause of the Redeemer. He says among other things—

I have been engaged in assisting the brethren on communion occasion. Was called to assist Brother — at —. Here one-third of the members sympathized with those who had warred against the National Government. They would not at first come to preaching. Brother — was very sick, hence the preaching devolved on me. I preached once on Friday, three times on Saturday and three times on Sunday, and

administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Some of those styled rebels present did not commune. At night the revival commenced, four were inquiring what to do to be saved. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday I preached twice each day, and attended inquiry meetings. On Friday I called in the help of Brother — but not until the rebel element had practically united with us. On Sabbath I welcomed *twenty-three* into the church, and administered the communion to Unionists and Disunionists alike. All united heartily in sitting at the same table and testifying their devotion to the same Lord. On Sunday night I left *twenty-one* inquiring, and on Tuesday night Brother — left *twenty-five*. Being exhausted with these continuous services, we had to close these interesting meetings. That was the most glorious revival I ever attended. The Lord carried it over all hindrance, so that I could call upon Unionists and Disunionists indiscriminately to pray, and sent them hand in hand to lead sinners to the inquiry room.

MISSIONARY BOXES.

The ladies of many of our churches are engaged in the noble work of supplying, to some extent, clothing for our Home Missionaries and their families. This service confers a two-fold blessing—on those that give and those that receive. The subjoined letter sent to the ladies of one of our city churches, acknowledging the receipt of a box of clothing, shows how much it was appreciated, not merely because it supplied pressing necessities, but because of its influence on this servant of God in animating him to a cheerful and patient continuance in his self-denying work. The missionary's salary is often too limited to provide suitable clothing and books, and were it not for the kind offices of these ladies they must often be depressed in spirits, and hindered in their work. We hope the ladies of all our churches will take part in this labor of love.

MARCH 2d, 1868.

ESTEEMED CHRISTIAN FRIENDS:—

With a full heart and eye, I beg leave to acknowledge your additional kind-

ness in sending me the charges of the transit of an invaluable missionary box, and since then a check for twenty-five dollars. . . . I can only say to you, the kind, Christian friends of Calvary church overpower me with their, in all my experience, altogether unexampled Christian kindness. The religious interest, to which I referred in my last, continues unabated. We are holding services nearly every night; and influences, at times all but overwhelming, continue to mark the exercises. Last week another young lady gave her heart to God, and publicly avowed herself on the Lord's side. With what emphasis, under such circumstances, our little band sings, "'Tis done—the great transaction's done; I am the Lord's, and He is mine," &c. We intend to continue these protracted efforts for some time longer, until the Lord shall "rain down righteousness." We are all more clearly than heretofore seeing the high privileges of our heavenly citizenship. We are earnestly praying for that great blessing, "the baptism of the Holy Ghost;" to be "endued with power from on high." One of my elders arose a few nights ago and said, "I once thought that when I had experienced a change of heart, there was nothing further to seek for; but for some time I have deeply felt my need of a deeper work of God's grace in my soul. I want my joy to be full; not only to have life, but to have it 'more abundantly.' I want to be 'filled with the spirit,' and I think I see my way more clearly. I feel that I do love Christ more than I have done. He is more precious to me every day."

Others spoke in a similar strain, and the interest rose until every one present was ready to say, "Surely our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."

The week before last I received an invitation to take the pastoral oversight of the church at M——, at a very large advance upon my present income; last week I received a similar invitation from the newly formed church there also; but I

cannot yet leave these few sheep in the wilderness; besides, through your great kindness, I am enabled to forego these pecuniary advantages. But for my sickness you would have heard from me before, in reply to your letter enclosing express charges on the box. I have lately visited about half of the families here, and given a copy of the Bible to every family who had no copy, and a testament to each individual member who could read, who was without one. I propose to go over the other half soon. The tracts will give another occasion for domiciliary visitation. God bless you, dear Christian ladies! May the "gentle Jesus, meek and mild," "hide you in his pavilion; in the secret of his tabernacle may he hide you." In hours of sadness and heart-ache, may his arm uphold and his heart shelter you from "the windy storm and the tempest." May you experience, day by day, the "great peace" of Jesus, and, at last, in the wealthier heaven "cast your crown at his feet," lost in wonder, love, and praise. We *shall* never, *can* never, forget you. We wish we could better express our gratitude. Here we may never see you, and how we often long to see those who have so befriended us, who have dried our tears, awakened our smiles; but *there*, a deathless instinct, to which we love to cling, tells us that we shall know and be known to our Philadelphia benefactors. In the revolution of the great cycle of eternity, we shall meet and cross each other's orbits, and there, whilst in the deepest core of our hearts, we shall still gratefully acknowledge, "It was precious for us to receive;" you also will feel over again that "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Mrs. ———, Miss ———, and the children are all saying "Say this, and tell them that." The truth is, you have, through your goodness, made children of us all.

THE PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY

Is sent *free* to all Honorary and Corresponding members of the Committee of Home Missions.

Advance Step in Foreign Missions.

To the intelligent observers of the Foreign Mission work, there are evidences of progress profoundly interesting and cheering. With the present century modern Protestant Missions may be said to have begun; now there are numerous societies in every Protestant country maintaining, on various fields, hundreds of missionaries with tens of thousands of disciples. But the point to which we would call special attention is not the change in the force at work, but in the questions that are exercising the wisdom of the managers of these societies. Then the questions were, *How shall we get men to the fields? How shall we get access to the heathen mind? How shall we bring the truth into contact with the benighted souls of the heathen?* Now the question is, *What is to be done in view of the results of the labor that has been put forth?*

Success has followed the preaching, printing, and teaching of the word; converts have been made; churches have been gathered; natives have been educated, licensed, ordained; Christian communities, with their schools, ministry, institutions of religion and benevolence, have grown up. All this has immensely increased the expenditure of the missions. Societies in England and America that once disbursed thirty, fifty, or a hundred thousand dollars per annum, are now utterly unable to meet the growing demands of their present stations with incomes of half a million of dollars. Success has increased seemingly necessary expenditures beyond the present measure of benevolence in the home churches.

Nor, when the future is closely scanned, does it seem likely that the difficulty will diminish; rather will it increase, if God's blessing on our efforts be in the future as in the past. In its new stage, the glorious work of enlarging and developing the institutions of Christianity in India, China, Turkey, Burmah, Africa, and other lands, is, we trust, to have an expansion far more rapid than any that the past has seen.

Here then comes the pinch. The Mission Boards are compelled to pause and reconstruct their modes of operation, or they will be ruined by success. The vine, whose root is in a Christian land, has sent her branches far away to shed its rich clusters of fruit upon foreign shores; but should any providence sap the power of the parent stock, or should those powers cease to grow, what will become of the distant branches? We must turn these branches under the soil; we must make them take root and draw their sustenance thence, so that in due time they may be self-supporting vines. At this problem the great Mission Societies are now laboring.

We have been especially interested in recent movements of the London Missionary Society in this direction. Its directors are kindly but firmly impressing this truth upon its missionaries. The expenditures of the Society are exceeding its large income by twenty thousand pounds a year,

and the success of the missions is increasing the annual deficiency. Hence the directors have entered upon a course of measures looking to the earliest possible time for making the native churches independent and self-supporting. Our readers will find it instructive to get a clear view of this matter; we therefore give pretty fully (though with some abbreviation) the third of this Society's series of "Budget Dispatches," as a specimen of the efforts which they are making. The dispatches are from the pen of Dr. Mullens, formerly of Calcutta, now Secretary of the Society.

TO THE INDIA AND CHINA MISSIONARIES.

DEAR BRETHREN:—

While most anxious judiciously to enlarge your Missions, and to occupy some portion of the new ground still open to the Church of Christ, the Board have found, by the pressure of recent years, that these Missions are not only more expensive than others, but that the outlay upon them has passed all prudent bounds. The causes of the recent increase are numerous. They are found without difficulty in the increase of our staff of missionaries; the increase of the Native agency; the rise of prices, the necessary addition to salaries, English and Native; and in the great opportunities of usefulness which surround you on every hand. Allowing for some imperfections of details, there can be little doubt that these large sums have been well spent; and that, had we sufficient men, in a very wise and efficient manner you could together spend a great deal more. But the society does not possess the funds which are necessary for that outlay.

The time has arrived when the Directors at home, and you the brethren abroad, should calmly look the matter in the face, and, by mutual explanation and counsel, determine to bring the outlay of the Society within the range of that income which we can fairly hope to secure. Those difficulties are formidable on both sides. With your vast opportunities of usefulness, in the great cities and wide-spread provinces open to your efforts, it is very hard for you continually to be checked where you would go forward, and to economise

where you feel it a duty to increase. But it is still harder for us to meet these heavy payments without funds; and to receive from abroad your heavy drafts, with a treasury continuing empty, notwithstanding all efforts to replenish it. We must look at the question together. We are seeking at home to economise in every department under our direct control; and to make every department as efficient as possible for the work which it has to perform. And we ask you to do the same. We have the fullest sympathy with you in your toil and anxieties; and the fullest confidence both in your wise conduct of the Missions you superintend and the zeal with which you strive to advance the Lord's honor and the conversion of souls. Many of your number have also manifested the warmest sympathy with us, and their assurances of hearty co-operation in the task before us, have greatly contributed to its settlement.

That reduction of some kind, and to a considerable extent, has become absolutely necessary, is not only plain, but is accepted on your side as well as ours. The real question between us is as to the best mode of effecting it. The Directors prefer at present not to relinquish stations, or to withdraw any of you from the field. The steady operation of ordinary causes is always producing vacancies amongst your number, which it is a constant struggle to supply. But to a thorough REVISION of all your plans, and of all your Native establishments, there can be no objection. On the contrary we believe that, throughout the whole range of the Society's operations, a calm and com-

plete revision of the forms of our work, in view of those principles which ought to guide our course at this period of the Society's history, must prove of the greatest advantage. We invite you therefore to examine and test the worth and suitability of every element of your agency; your chapels, preachers, teachers, and schools. We invite you also to recalculate all your resources. Some of you have large local funds available for your help. Can you not so apply those funds as to draw less sums from us? Are all your out-stations necessary? Are the smaller Native churches doing all they can to pay even the incidental expenses of their worship? Why should the Society pay those expenses in a single case? Are the larger and stronger churches looking forward to the support of a Native pastor, and beginning to provide for it? Amid your great opportunities in Christian education, have you availed yourselves to the fullest degree of all the resources around you in the fees of scholars, the gifts of friends, and other aids which you are at liberty to employ? To these questions, the Directors invite your most careful attention, and they have indicated in their Minute the course which your inquiries and subsequent action may, in their judgment, fittingly take.

The mode in which the Directors are now dealing with their various Missions is the result of long experience. No Missionary Society of modern days has had a more elastic system of operations; and no Society has proved itself more ready to shape its measures by the varied demands of time and place and national circumstances. No missionaries have been more skillful and faithful in adapting their agencies to the different countries and people among whom they have lived. And is it not owing to this skillful adaptation, as well as to the Christian fidelity of their preaching and their lives, that our Native churches and our numerous Missions have been blessed with their present prosperity? It is from the

basis of that prosperity that we propose a new advance. In suggesting changes in the modes of our action; in the position of our Missionaries; in the treatment of our converts, we are not criticising the past. Rather we build on the past; we mould the results of the past; we draw them onward to new developments of spiritual excellence and of Christian usefulness; out of which shall come yet higher good to men and greater glory to God. Those among you who have watched the growth of the Native churches must have marked with pleasure their increased numbers; the great liberality displayed in Polynesia and the West Indies; the heroic sacrifices of our Polynesian evangelists; the more earnest life of the older churches in our Missions everywhere. This stronger life, where ever shown, is able to bear more and do more for Christ's work; and in that exercise of its various graces will find the life grow stronger and higher still.

(a) First, they consider that as soon as a fitting native pastor can be found, each native church shall cease to remain under the pastoral care of an English missionary.

(b) That the native church should help itself is a point not likely to be questioned by the friends of our society. But where theory is complete, practice may be very imperfect; and undoubtedly a large number of our smaller churches have been accustomed to look to the Society for almost all the expenses connected with their worship, and look to it still. Not a few missionaries have seemed to think it natural that they should do so.

(c) The employment of native agency has often been urged by the Directors, and its great value described in the pages of our reports. Every missionary knows not only its weakness, but its worth. The fear now felt by the Directors is, not that it will not be employed, but that it is being employed in a too great degree; and that imperfect men, useful once, when no better were to be had, are still sought after, in

addition to the well-trained evangelists and preachers now at our command.

All former lists of catechists, girls and boys, for whom specific contributions were remitted or drawn, are set aside in the new estimates; and an exact list accompanies, setting forth the catechists, girls, female schools, and the like, on whose behalf money has been specifically contributed.

In three or four cases the Directors have removed from their estimates an allowance paid to catechists' widows. They do so, because they consider that, while such persons may have a claim on the native church of their own country, they cannot have any claim upon the missionary contributions of a totally foreign land.

It is very pleasant to the Directors to see no less than seventy of the Society's missionaries occupying lofty positions of usefulness in the two great empires of the East; and to find such a large proportion of their ordained native pastors drawn from the little churches planted in the midst of their heathenism. They cannot but feel grateful, that to the churches which support the Society has been given the privilege and the grace to contribute a substantial share to the Christian efforts put forth to lead these myriads of souls to the Saviour. It is pleasant to know that everywhere you are not laboring alone, but are surrounded by esteemed brethren of many churches, with whom you hold most cordial fellowship, cemented in numerous cases by personal friendship, and productive both of hearty co-operation in your public labors and of most pleasant intercourse in your large-hearted social life. The labors of all these valued brethren aid your own, as your labors help forward theirs. Preaching the "common salvation," you offer the same arguments against error; you spread the same essential truth; you make a common impression, and are moulding the mind of these nations at large at length to cast away their idols, to fill all your churches, and prepare the way for the universal profession of the Christian faith. Many signs are manifest that

this great change will come; and they call for the greatest fidelity on your part, that when it comes it shall be accomplished in the wisest way.

Many influences are at work, especially in India, to open the way for the truth and to enlarge its borders. The Indian Government is doing its work nobly; the English settler and merchant are calling forth those resources and employing that labor, which have added greatly to the material comfort of the whole community. Education is expanding the intellect and rendering all classes more active. How loud the call which these facts present for a large and more earnest preaching of the gospel by Christian men! To this solemn duty let us invite your most thoughtful attention. You are the "messengers of the churches." Valued as personal friends; known and honored by many members of the Board for your personal worth, you are remembered and cared for specially as missionaries, sent forth among these heathen, in a land like India, to work for Christ and for His Church. Be diligent in the use of your time; be faithful to your priceless opportunities. Your strength lies not in our funds, not in the number of your converts, or in the position of schools. It is in your own faith, your own consecration, your purity of motive, in the power of your prayers. Let your churches feel this power, and be filled with it. Let all of your schools and seminaries be distinguished, not by secular ambition, but for their spiritual life and fulness of religious influence. Let your preaching among the heathen be distinguished by that Christ-like persuasiveness which beseeches men that they be reconciled unto God. It is our longing for your truest usefulness which leads us to address you thus. You are always remembered in our prayers.

Opinions of Missionaries.

This dispatch was sent to the various missions, and from that at Benares, in Northern India, came the following unanimous reply:—

"Resolved, That this Committee having before it all the Budget Dispatches of the directors, with Dr. Mullens' letters, containing a detailed statement of the mode in which the Society purposes henceforth to apply its funds in support of each Mission, cannot separate without expressing their high approbation of the vigor and wisdom that characterize the new system; and although some of the retrenchments required will cause them a temporary inconvenience

and even perplexity, chiefly arising from the suddenness with which the system has been brought into operation, yet they are prepared cheerfully to suffer it, feeling confident that the ultimate results will be most beneficial. This Committee begs to assure the Society of their warm sympathy and unabated affection; and pledge themselves to continue vigorous co-operation in this blessed service of our common Lord."

Ministerial Relief Fund.

Special Notice.

ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AT THEIR MEETING, MARCH 17, 1868.

"Resolved, In view of the pressing demands for aid coming from our disabled ministers, their widows and orphans, and the need of funds to meet those demands, that our Secretary be requested to make special appeals to those churches which, for the present year, have not contributed to the Fund, urging *immediate attention* to the claims of this cause."

The publication of our receipts for the quarter ending January 31st, presented so favorable an account of the treasury that the churches seem to have concluded that we need but little help for the present. This is a serious mistake, and has led to such a neglect of this cause that the receipts for the last two months (February and March) are less than half the amount contributed in the corresponding months of last year. Will not more of the churches come to our *immediate assistance*?

Unless more than *four thousand dollars* are sent to our treasury, by the 16th of June, there will be disappointment and suffering among those whose wants the fund is intended to supply.

April 3d, 1868.

CHARLES BROWN, *Secretary.*

A Vital Question.

From an immense and continually increasing number of facts, it has become perfectly plain, that our Assembly's Committees cannot carry forward with vigor and success the great works assigned them, unless they are systematically sustained by the churches. *Unless the churches give first to these causes*, and then to others as they are able, the Committees will be compelled to halt and limp in their onward march. What course will the churches pursue?

This is a vital question for us as a branch of the Church of Christ with a great work to do for His cause and kingdom.

The Publication Work.

EXTRACTS FROM OUR LETTERS.

The Deaf hear the Gospel.

The Rev. Wm. S. Taylor, of Petersburg, Michigan, sends to our Publication Committee an interesting evidence of the usefulness of the printed gospel. He says:

If I mistake not, I acknowledged the grant of tracts sent me since the meeting of our Synod. I write now to mention an incident connected therewith. In my parish we have had an interesting work of grace. Mr. W——, a trustee, and a regular attendant hitherto at Sabbath services, became convinced of sin, and spent a wretched, sleepless night in considering. He clearly and fully the next day chose the service of the Lord, and wondered what he had been about the fifty-one years of his life, that he had not understood these things before. He earnestly requested us to remember his poor wife, who is entirely deaf, but always a regular attendant at church with their two boys. That night, I spent with the family. The family altar was erected, and Mr. W—— joined vocally in prayer, and said no such thing had ever happened in his house before. Mrs. W—— seemed interested for her soul. Not being able to converse with her, I put into her hands one of the tracts received from you: "Follow Me; or, How to become a Christian." In a day or two she was rejoicing in hope, and joyfully told what the Lord had done for her. She prizes the tract next to her Bible, and means to keep it as long as she lives. It meets her case so exactly—so explained to her just what she wanted to know, that she could not be grateful enough for the gift.

Thus you may see that your labors are not in vain in the Lord.

East Tennessee.

The Rev. E. L. Boing, now on a mission of observation with regard to operations among the freedmen, writes to us:

I came to this place last evening in the

course of my mission efforts. I find here a struggling church, positively, intensely New School Presbyterian, doing all in their power to build up our cause in this distracted, broken portion of our land. They have just completed a noble effort in collecting sixty-five dollars for a Sabbath-school library. I advised them to send to you their list, and request you to select for them. But the amount of money is not sufficient to supply their necessity. Now, my dear brother, please add as liberally to their library as you can in the way of a donation. I can vouch for their great need. This people are doing nobly, and should have help for a season until the effects of the rebellion can be recovered from.

I am well and have succeeded in my mission beyond my expectation. After a little I shall need your help among the freedmen. Hoping to learn that this application for the Sabbath-school in Jonesboro received your kind consideration and timely assistance, I remain your brother in the Lord.

Thanks and Wants.

From Sault St. Marie, Lake Superior.

I heartily wish your Publication Committee could have looked in upon our Sunday-school the first Sunday after we received the twenty volumes you donated us. I am sure you would have realized that it is more "blessed to give than to receive." There were about fifty scholars present; and of course each one wished to have one of the *new books* to read. While I was glad to give to twenty scholars, I was sorry to disappoint thirty others. I have been distributing the books so that one would get into each family. Very soon they will all be read through by every scholar in the school.

Our children are great readers. The second Sunday after the books came, when they were returned, I asked a boy eight or ten years old, "Well, Eddie,

did you read your book?" "Oh, yes, sir! I read it, and mother read it, and Lucy read it, and Sammy read it." Read through four times! I asked about its contents, and was surprised to hear how much the child could tell me.

I do prize these volumes very, very much, and am very thankful to you for this generous gift.

But let me not forget to tell you that the Lord is moving the hearts of my congregation. Though the week of prayer is past and has been observed, we are going on with our meetings. Five were added to our church on Sunday; two have found peace and quite a number are under conviction. Pray for us.

Purchasers Satisfied.

The Rev. Mr. Van Deursen writes:

I did not write before in relation to the selection which you made for our Sabbath-school library, as I did not wish to give an opinion without fair proof of the excellence of the numerous volumes sent, but now I can say cheerfully that we are more than satisfied. The books have been carefully read, and they fully meet our anticipations. You have suited us as well as if we had selected each volume ourselves, and we cordially commend the plan to all Sabbath-schools who may desire to add choice books to their catalogue.

From another purchaser:

We were so well pleased with Rev. S. W. Crittenden's selection of books for our Sunday-school last year, that we wish to avail ourselves of his experience and good judgment in selecting a new addition to our library. We have collected fifty-five dollars, which we wish to invest in books.

A Wise Man.

Our Publication Committee had the bad taste to decline a manuscript of one of our good ministers, (unhappily, a crime frequently committed by them;) he responds philosophically:

The first thought was, "what an abnormal taste!" But when you assure me that in disposing of ——— your Committee "did the best they knew

how," that alters the case. No corporation "doing the best they know how" need fear persecution from me. That is as well as the queen does.

My biographer will prize the manuscript. Be so kind as to send it.

Very respectfully ———.

Presbyterian Monthly.

Writes another brother:—

Our PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY ought to be scattered through the country like leaves of the forest. If we can secure the reading of it by the Church, I am sure it will accomplish a two-fold good—good to the reader and good for our beloved Zion.

Thanks from Minnesota.

From South Bend, Blue Earth Co., Minnesota, the Rev. Jenkin Jenkins writes:

All the books for our Sabbath-school, with those you sent for me, came to hand in full according to the invoice. For which we all send our grateful acknowledgment. Please tell the Sunday-school of Greenville, New York, in our behalf, that their precious donation was much needed and highly commended without exception. I may further add that your donation to me is very good, the very thing I stood most in need of. May increasing light from above beam upon you, as you labor to dispense light over this benighted far West.

For the Germans.

Our good German Brother Seaman, writes from Trenton, Ill.

TO THE LAKE FOREST PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH-SCHOOL.

Through your kindness, our Publication Committee has sent a small lot of books to our Sabbath-school. Just the thing we have wished and prayed for a good while. If you could have seen the sparkling eyes, and sweet smiles of the poor German children, who are able to read the English language, you would have been fully rewarded for your kind donation of twenty-five dollars. We have to get along differently from you in our Sabbath-school—have no church

building of our own—and the pastor has to be superintendent, treasurer, secretary, and librarian all in one. The office of treasurer is the easiest, for we have no money to take care of thus far. True, the children contribute occasionally their cents and half-dimes, but we have to pay it all out for German publications, as many of our scholars can read but this language, and our Publication Committee is not supplied with those books in German. I assure you your donation will do much good. We have over one hundred scholars in our school, and some have been hopefully converted to God. Thanking you a thousand times for your kindness, wishing you every prosperity in your school, and praying that God may reward you for your kindness, we are yours truly, one in effort of doing good.

OUR OWN PUBLICATIONS.

The Shannons; or, From Darkness to Light, is a new book by the popular author Martha Farquharson. It is a volume of 336 pages, 16mo, with five very attractive wood-cut illustrations, by Van Ingen & Snyder. The tale is one of thrilling interest; in the earlier chapters painfully so, as it depicts the sufferings of a family cursed with a drunken brute of a father. But the fortunes of the Shannons are "From Darkness to Light." There are two classes of readers who will be specially interested in this book, the Sunday-school workers, and the haters of intemperance. Our Old School neighbor, *The Presbyterian*, says: "Few Sunday-school books as good as this have been published. We commend it to all who are laboring in the Master's service, to reclaim the ignorant and the vicious by carrying His gospel into the abodes of misery and want." Price \$1.25.

The Pet Lamb is a sweet little volume of a new series, which the Committee are issuing for young readers. Many of the so called "Infant Libraries" are perfect humbugs, though coming from very honorable quarters. Tracts and

books that happen to be *small* are bound together, no matter how fine the type or how incongruous the matter and style, and sold for very young children. What is wanted is simplicity in style and thought, and a large, clear type. Such is the *Pet Lamb*, which contains three chapters, *The Pet Lamb*, *Lambs of Christ's Flock*, and *Christ's Lambs from heathen lands*. 72 pages, 18mo, with two illustrations. Price 35 cents.

The Bird and the Arrow, is a book of 124 pages, 18mo, with two illustrations, for children one grade older, teaching excellent lessons on acting from principle rather than impulse. The fondness of our English cousins for American writings led us to commit the mistake of taking from a London book a chapter of Dr. Newton's *Best Things*, published by the Carters, entitled "The Best Warfare." Price 40 cents.

What Then? or, The Soul's Tomorrow, a 32mo of 128 pages, by Dr. Gillett. The want of something to lead persons coming within his own reach to a consideration of the danger of delay, and of the importance of an immediate attention to religion, led the writer to prepare this little volume. Baxter's *Call*, Alliene's *Alarm*, and kindred books, do not meet the indications in many cases at this day. Something more modern in thought and style is wanted. "What Then?" meets this want. It is sold in muslin binding at 25 cents, in paper covers at 15 cents.

Saints' Perseverance, by Rev. Jacob Little, formerly of Granville, Ohio, is marked by the quaint and pithy vigor so characteristic of the man. It is clear, pointed, and very readable. Price 3 cents.

Social Prayer, is a tract for laymen and by a layman, meant for that large body of Christians who "cannot lead in prayer." Its circulation among intelligent church members will tend to help the pastor to helpers in the prayer-meeting. Active laymen could not do a better thing than to distribute it. Price 3 cents.

YOUNG MEN RECEIVING AID.

In the April issue of the MONTHLY, in giving the number of the young men receiving aid from the Permanent Committee of Education, a serious error, in some inexplicable way, crept in with reference to their distribution in the different grades of preparation, which it is important to correct, as this publication stands and is referred to as a record of facts in the several organized schemes of our Church.

The candidates should be distributed as follows:—

In their Theological course,	74
In their Collegiate course,	81
In their Academical course,	41
<hr/>	
Total	196

In the former issue the Academical students were given as high as sixty-six, and the Collegiate as low as fifty-eight. The report as corrected shows a better condition of facts, since the chief danger of disappointment would seem to lie with those in the earlier part of their preparation, when the character and aims are less distinctly developed, and friends and counsellors can less confidently judge, than in the more advanced class.

It may be of interest to compare with the statement the exhibit of candidates under the care of the Education Board of the Old School General Assembly, as gathered from their last annual report. The whole number on their roll is two hundred and sixty-one of whom,

In the Theological course are,	125
In the Collegiate,	93
In the Academical,	43

It will be noticed that the proportion of students in the earliest or Academical grade is not very widely different from our own exhibit, while the proportion in the Theological course is much larger.

North Carolina, gives the following illustrations of the intense eagerness of these long-oppressed people to acquire knowledge.

"We have thirty-four students in attendance, some twenty of whom wish to study for the ministry. The government has given us additional help in the way of clothing, and we have applied for \$4000, but I fear we shall not get it.

It would touch your heart to see some of these poor fellows when they first present themselves. One came in to-day. He had walked thirty miles, through the mud and rain. His earthly all consisted of two suits of clothing and a note for \$26. He could read very well, seemed to be an intelligent and earnest Christian, and had come up to get more education, that he might preach. Another walked eighty miles through the snow, and when he arrived was completely broken down. He spent his last cent on the road. One got out of money, and went two days without anything, except a little broken bread. We have one here living on bread and water, and he says he won't leave while he can manage to get that. Christians must awake to the importance of this Institution. Let me relate an incident. A wealthy minister of Connecticut, pastor of a large church, was in the South a year ago. He gave us a donation of \$150 or \$200. Last December he was here again, spent two weeks with us, preached in a revival, heard the young men recite, became so much interested that he resigned his charge, accepted an appointment in the Institution as instructor, to *labor gratuitously*, and *his wife will do the same* in the parochial school. If the church could see what we see, there would be no lack of funds. Help now is most needed for those poor candidates for the ministry."—*The Record* (O. S.)

BIDDLE INSTITUTE.

The Rev. W. L. Miller, in making a report as to colored students of theology, at Biddle Memorial Institute, in

NOTICE.

With the July number of the PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY we shall commence a MINISTERIAL RECORD of Ordinations,

Installations, Dismissals, and Deaths, of ministers of our body.

Brethren will please send us a memorandum of these occurrences, and they will be put upon permanent record in our Magazine.

NOTES ON NEW BOOKS.

The Eighth Volume of Lange's Commentary on the Scriptures has been just issued by Charles Scribner & Co., of New York. Philadelphia: Smith, English & Co.

It is with great satisfaction that we commend, not to clergymen only, but to lay students of the Bible also, this truly magnificent work. Its conception was grand; its execution reflects the highest credit upon its editors, translators, and publishers. The Eighth Volume embraces the Epistles to the Thessalonians, Timothy, Titus, Philemon, and the Hebrews. As the commentators and the translators, (who also add notes original and selected) of this volume, represent seven denominations of Christians, there is a diversity of interpretation in questions of rites, Church order, and even of doctrine. Yet the unity in diversity of Christian faith is seen in the fact that in all important matters the belief of all is one. Of the laborers on this volume, two, Dr. Auberlen, of Basel, and his translator, Dr. Lillie, have ceased from earthly labors before the fruits of their toil were given to the public.

The authors of this volume are Drs. Auberlen, Riggenbach, Van Oosterzee, Moll; the translators, Drs. Lillie, Washburn, Harwood, Day, Hackett and Kendrick.

Any layman who wishes to confer a favor on his pastor may safely purchase for him Lange's Commentary. He cannot go amiss in so doing.

Also from Charles Scribner & Co., New York.

Henry Ward Beecher's novel, *Norwood; or, Village Life in New England*, 549 pp., 12mo, viewed simply as a novel, would not prove a success if

written by another man and under other circumstances; its best things are those that would not attract the regular novel-reader. The author very properly disclaims qualifications for the construction of the machinery of a novel, nor would it be fair to compare his work with the masterpieces of the acknowledged lords of imaginative writing. The volume is one that immediately reveals its parentage. It abounds in those exquisite descriptions, almost apotheoses, of nature in all its forms—the trees, the birds, the flowers, the clouds—so characteristic of the man. It occasionally lets drop a hint of questionable truth, or verges on the grounds of the unbeliever, yet utters much that is noble not merely, but deeply Christian. The descriptions of New England village life are full of freshness, vividness, and reality, and some of the characters sharply delineated; even the war scenes are pervaded by a most kindly tone towards those whom he condemns as in the wrong. We confess to a little proper dislike of a "novel by a minister," and to Mr. Beecher's vagaries, but think that he may have done worse things than write *Norwood*.

FROM ROBERT CARTER & BROTHERS, New York. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Book Store.

Hetherington's History of the Westminster Assembly, 311 pp., 12mo. In the present state of the movement for a union of the Presbyterian churches in the United States it will be found interesting and useful to study the history of the Assembly of Divines held at Westminster in the years 1643 to 1649. Although some of the questions then in debate have become obsolete, at least in this country, others still live; and the great lesson, that large bodies of men can unite in harmonious action only by recognizing and tolerating differences on minor points, will never lose its import whilst men are constituted as they now are. Hetherington does not confine his history to the Assembly, but gives also a sketch of the state of religious parties in England for a hundred

years preceding it, as also of the subsequent fourteen years. A valuable book.

Girding on the Armor, is a new volume from the pen of the author of the "Win and Wear Series." In an attractive narrative it enforces, by the story of a family suddenly reduced to poverty, the necessity of putting on the whole armor of God to fight the battle of life successfully.

362 pp., 16mo. With graphic wood-cut illustrations.

THE LUTHERAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION are entering upon the work of issuing bound volumes. They publish;

The Conversion of Capt. Wm. E. Sees, 49 pp., 18mo, an unpretending sketch of the spiritual life of a brave officer of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Infantry.

Dr. Parrot's Ascent of Mount Arrarat. By Rev. E. Greenwald, D.D., 76 pp., 18mo, giving the story of the difficulties encountered in reaching the snow-clad summit of this famous mountain.

The Foreign Mission Work of Pastor Louis Harms and the Church at Hermansburg. 57 pp., 18mo., also by Dr. Greenwald, a history which should be not merely read but earnestly pondered by every Christian. If every church sent out and sustained its own missionaries how vast would be the advances of the Kingdom of Christ.

In our last number the word "Christian" crept into print in place of Western, in our notices of books from the WESTERN TRACT AND BOOK SOCIETY, of Cincinnati. They send to us also

The Journey through the Valley of Pearls, an allegory for children, on seeking the pearl of great price. 43 pp., 18mo.

Jesus All and in All, 236 pp., 18mo, a profitable and eminently evangelical little book, clearly showing, first what we must do to be saved, and then, what we should do when we are saved. Jesus is shown to be the way of salvation and the giver of the blessings that come through salvation.

The Christian Steward, 109 pp., 18mo. By a Layman. Discusses with clearness the question of systematic individual beneficence. It urges the keeping of a regular benevolence account—a system that, if carried out, would immediately quadruple the gifts of the churches, and add greatly to the joy and satisfaction of givers.

Little Robert and his Friend, 110 pp., 18mo. A true story, which portrays a boy of unnatural goodness certainly, yet teaching lessons of Christian love, by his great kindness to a poor mulatto boy, the son of degraded and drunken parents, and giving a beautiful example of youthful piety.

converted English Collier, by R. C. Morgan, deserves an attention not ordinarily given to books of its size. The story of *Richard Weaver*, the Nothing is more instructive than the history of a real life. In this case the life is one of very remarkable workings of God's providence and grace. One of the most godless of young men, depraved, illiterate, profane, but ever followed by a mother's prayers, becomes an eminent preacher to the laboring classes. Richard Weaver is now earnestly laboring as a lay preacher in England and with wonderful success.

188 pp., 18mo.

The Christian's Friend. By Rev. A. Ritchie. 103 pp., 18mo, is a series of evangelical readings on Christ, the Saviour, in his various offices; clear, comfortable and profitable. It is a good book to give to young Christians.

All for sale at the Presbyterian Book Store, Philadelphia.

Ruth and Alice, a story for children preparatory to Confirmation. By Maria K. Bulfinch, issued by the Protestant Episcopal Sunday-school Union, New York. 219 pp., 18mo. It pleasantly illustrates the Church Catechism and Creed. Its teachings inculcate baptismal regeneration, as also the sole churchship of that body which is governed by Bishops, Priests, and Deacons; and that the Bishops fill exactly the

places vacated by the Apostles—all of which, in our dissenting darkness, we are unable to believe.

The Congregational Quarterly for April is an excellent number. Whilst thoroughly Congregational, and sometimes slightly over-estimating the perfection of its own system, this quarterly is neither monotonous, dull, nor unprofitable. We are always glad to see it. It is edited by Messrs. Quint, Langworthy & Cushing, Boston.

The Family Treasure, Cincinnati, for April, shows improvement. It is now

edited by Messrs. Findley, Babb & Ritchie.

Not the least interesting of the Journals of Specialties is *Colton's Journal of Geography*, issued quarterly at one dollar a year, from 172 William street, New York. It is a magazine of discovery, exploration, and survey. No. 2 contains a map of Abyssinia and the adjacent lands.

The Little Corporal, *The American Agriculturist*, *The Horticulturist*, *The Musical Pioneer*, are all good and welcome—each in its place.

HOME MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS,

Made in March, 1868.

Rev. W. H. Carr, Centreville, N. Y.
 " Geo. T. Everest, Peru, N. Y.
 " H. M. Morey, West Avenue church, Rochester, N. Y.
 " Geo. Locker, Philadelphia, (German,) Pennsylvania.
 " E. S. Weaver, Blue Ball, Ohio
 " Thos. Griffith, Clinton, Ind.
 " M. B. Gregg, E. St. Louis, Ill.
 " C. W. Seamen, Trenton and Lebanon, Ill.
 " A. Thompson, Brooklyn, Ill.
 " D. B. Campbell, Wenona, Mich.
 " Wm. Drummond, Stone Bank, Wis.
 " James Agnew, Jamesville, Iowa.
 " E. Dickinson, Winterset, Iowa.
 " J. C. Ewing, North River, Iowa.

Rev. Asa Johnson, Pilot Grove and Summit Grove, Iowa.
 " James Gordon, Emporia, Kansas.
 " Wm. Hart, Washington, Assembly church, D. C.
 " A. J. Compton, Watsonville, Cal.
 " F. Fox, Emanuel ch, San Francisco, Cal.
 " C. P. Blanchard, for the West.
 " T. Y. Gardner, for the West.
 " T. F. Jessup, for the West.
 " James Lewis, for the West.
 " C. H. McCreary, for the West.
 " Geo. Martin, for the West.
 " D. C. Milner, for the West.
 " S. A. Stoddard, for the West
 " Mr. C. W. VanHusen, for E. Tenn.

DONATIONS

Received by the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions in March, 1868.

NEW YORK.			
Auburn 2d Pres ch, bal	\$13 03	New York West Pres ch,	1419 61
Albion Pres ch, Ladies Home Miss'y Soc'y	170 21	New York Mercer Street Pres ch, in part,	1042 28
Buffalo 1st Pres ch, Ladies Home Miss'y Soc'y, \$30 of which from Mrs H Ben- net,	305 50	New York 11th Street Pres ch,	111 30
Buffalo North Pres ch, Ladies Home Missionary Society,	105 75	New York Church of the Covenant, add'l,	125 00
Cazenovia Pres ch,	101 37	New York Allen Street Pres ch, Sab-sch,	100 00
Catskill Pres ch,	124 06	New York 14th Street Pres ch, add'l,	45 00
Canton Pres ch,	29 00	New York Dry Dock Sab-sch Miss'y As- sociation,	100 00
Durham 1st Pres ch,	131 45	New York. Mrs J W Baker, for Sab-sch cause in the West,	10 00
Franklinville Pres ch,	10 00	Newark Pres ch,	150 90
Gloversville, Rev R A Avery,	50 00	Osceola Pres ch,	15 00
Holly Pres ch, add'l	8 35	Penn Yan Pres ch, a friend,	125 00
Hannibal Pres ch,	10 00	Pittsford Pres ch,	51 50
Ithaca Pres ch, "A Friend,"	500 00	Oneonta Pres ch,	13 75
Ithaca Pres ch, Sabbath-school,	50 00	Rochester Brick Pres ch, in part,	1081 95
Lyons Pres ch, Sabbath-school,	25 00	Redfield Pres ch,	25 00
Malden Pres ch,	52 35	Syracuse 1st Pres ch, H L Duguid 100; Sab-sch 20 83	120 83
Montgomery Pres ch,	37 04	Somerset Pres ch, Sab-sch Miss'y Soc'y	25 00
Manchester Pres ch, bal,	10 00	Sodus Pres ch,	10 00
New York Madison Square Pres ch, in part,	4035 61	Springfield Pres ch,	33 90
		Springport Pres ch,	16 92
		Turin Pres ch,	26 00

Union Pres ch,	\$22 75	ILLINOIS.	
Union Pres ch, Sab-sch for Freedmen,	27 25	Brighton Pres ch,	\$29 00
Verona ch Sab-sch,	19 00	Du Quoine Pres ch,	17 75
Wheeler Pres ch, O F Marshall,	8 00	Joliet First Pres ch,	25 40
Watertown Stone Street Pres ch,	85 00	Lawrence Pres ch,	25 00
Weston Pres ch,	19 28	Middleport Pres ch,	7 00
Legacy from the Estate of Mrs Hannah Charles, dec'd. per Ex., 543 56; less exchange, 1 36,	542 20	Pana Pres ch,	100 00
	\$11,136 14	Pontiac Pres ch,	20 00
		Tamaroa Pres ch,	17 75
		Washington Pres ch,	13 60
		Winslow Pres ch,	15 00
			\$270 50
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Belvidere 2d Pres ch,	\$102 00	Lansing First Pres ch,	\$77 86
Vineland Pres ch,	12 45	Portland Pres ch,	3 00
	\$114 45	Legacy from the Estate of Rev C Osborn, Dearbonville, per Mrs E M Osborn, Executrix,	50 00
PENNSYLVANIA.			\$130 86
East Whiteland Pres ch,	\$38 75	WISCONSIN.	
Neshaminy Pres ch,	37 73	Baraboo Pres ch,	\$18 50
Philadelphia 1st N L Pres ch,	150 00	MINNESOTA.	
Philadelphia Brainerd Memorial Sab-sch,	25 00	Blue Earth City Pres ch,	\$5 00
Philadelphia, Rev J Miller and wife,	20 00	Chatfield Pres ch,	20 00
Philadelphia, A C Eckfeldt,	5 00	Minneapolis Pres ch,	28 00
Philadelphia Cedar Street Pres ch, add'l	3 25		\$53 00
Philadelphia 3d Pres ch, J M Rugan,	2 00	IOWA.	
Philadelphia German Pres ch,	10 00	Centreville Pres ch,	\$10 00
Philadelphia Central Pres ch,	20 00	MISSOURI.	
Pittsfield Pres ch,	4 00	Laketown Pres ch,	\$11 00
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	\$571 73	TENNESSEE.	
DELAWARE.		Hopewell Pres ch,	\$8 00
Wilmington, Central Pres ch,	\$230 58	Timber Ridge Pres ch,	6 00
Wilmington Hanover Street Pres ch, Sab-bath-school,	20 00		\$14 00
Pencador Pres ch, Beneficent Association,	51 94	CALIFORNIA.	
	\$302 52	Gilroy Pres ch,	\$35 32
OHIO.		Milpitas Pres ch,	56 50
Bantam Pres ch,	\$25 00	Milpitas, Mrs Walker,	14 12
Cleveland First mission ch,	6 21		\$105 94
Circleville First Pres ch,	33 20	Total amount received,	\$12,974 70
Grafton Pres ch,	12 00	EDW. A. LAMBERT, Treasurer,	
Piqua Second Pres ch,	20 00	45 John Street, New York.	
	\$96 41		

THE PUBLICATION CAUSE.

Donations Received by the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Publication Committee, from February 1st to March 31st, 1868.

Silver Creek, N Y, Pres ch, additional,	\$10 00	Harbor Creek, Pa, Pres ch,	\$7 00
Kirkersville, Ohio, Pres ch,	3 00	Syracuse, N Y, 1st Ward Pres ch,	40 00
Pataskala, Ohio, Pres ch,	3 00	Newark, N J, South Park Pres ch,	41 19
Keeseville, N Y, Pres ch, Sabbath-school,	26 77	Washingtonville, N Y, Pres ch,	4 05
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Jno A McGaw 25, C U Isham 25, Cash 248 67	548 67	Newark, N J, C S Haines,	40 00
Ulysses, Pa, 1st Pres ch,	10 00	Philadelphia, Pa, Lombard st Central ch,	11 00
		Cortland, N Y, Pres ch,	12 00
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Erie, Pa, 1st Pres ch,	50 00	Stamford, Ct, Pres ch Sabbath-school,	18 40
Waterford, Pa, Pres ch,	8 40	Pencador, Del, Pres ch,	23 47
Romulus, N Y, Pres ch,	7 00	Cleveland, Ohio, 1st Pres ch,	30 00
Harrisburg, Pa, J W Weir, additional,	10 00	Cuba, N Y, Pres ch,	12 00
Newark, N Y, Pres ch Sabbath-school,	15 00	Amsterdam, N Y, Rev A L Chapin,	1 00
Pompey, N Y, Rev E S Egleston,	2 05	Philadelphia, Pa, Mrs J G Budler,	5 00
Honesdale, Pa, Cash,	1 75	Indianapolis, Ind, 4th Pres ch,	13 00
Central College, Ohio, Pres ch,	2 00	Ashtabula, Ohio, Pres ch,	21 67
Darby, Pa, First Pres ch,	9 43	Connersville, Ind, Pres ch,	10 00
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Philadelphia, Pa, Calvary Pres ch,	98 36	Springfield, Pa, Pres ch Sabbath-school,	14 00
West Aurora, N Y, Pres ch,	5 00	Total,	\$2626 77
Aurelius, N Y, Pres ch,	3 15	WM. L. HILDEBURN, Treasurer.	
Pultney, N Y, Pres ch,	7 00		
Gowanda, N Y, Pres ch,	10 00	Address Business Orders to	
Howell, Mich, Pres ch,	10 25	PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.	
Philadelphia, Pa, Western Pres ch,	40 00	Letters with regard to manuscripts, donations,	
Youngstown, N Y, Pres ch,	10 00	and the general interests of the Committee, to	
Chester City, Pa, Pres ch,	21 00	REV. JOHN W. DULLES, Secretary,	
Philadelphia, Pa, Walnut st ch Mission		1334 Chestnut Street, Phila.	
Sabbath-school,	5 00		
Greenville, Tenn, Rev S V McCorkle,	3 45		

EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Receipts for March, 1868.

NEW YORK.		Dresden Pres ch,	\$10 31
New York City West Pres ch,	\$1294 14	Mount Gilead Pres ch,	3 20
Owego 1st Pres ch,	84 30	MICHIGAN.	
Corning 1st Pres ch,	68 00	Marquette Pres ch,	\$155 00
Port Jervis Pres ch,	59 00	Detroit 1st Pres ch,	119 12
Port Jervis Sabbath-school,	5 00	Ann Arbor 1st Pres ch,	41 25
Florida 1st Pres ch,	62 50	Hillsdale Pres ch,	39 06
Utica 1st Pres ch,	50 00	Battle Creek Pres ch,	23 00
Cooperstown Pres ch,	43 47	Three Rivers 1st Pres ch,	16 00
Peekskill 2d Pres ch,	31 00	Albion Pres ch,	12 28
Nineveh Pres ch,	25 00	INDIANA.	
Almond Pres ch,	15 00	New Albany 3d Pres ch,	\$26 80
Cuba Pres ch,	12 00	Indianapolis 4th Pres ch,	26 15
Durham 1st Pres ch,	11 25	ILLINOIS.	
Durham 2d Pres ch,	10 00	Alton Pres ch,	\$50 00
NEW JERSEY.		Mount Sterling 1st Pres ch,	25 30
Newark South Park Pres ch,	\$148 01	Shelbyville Pres ch,	23 40
Roseville Pres ch,	56 10	Knoxville 1st Pres ch,	21 00
Elizabeth 3d Pres ch,	33 50	Freeport 1st Pres ch,	20 00
Hanover 1st Pres ch,	30 00	WISCONSIN.	
Succasunna Pres ch,	17 75	Baraboo Pres ch,	\$8 00
DELAWARE.		MINNESOTA.	
Pencador Pres ch,	\$32 54	St Paul House of Hope Pres ch,	\$37 15
PENNSYLVANIA.		Stillwater 1st Pres ch,	15 00
Pittsburgh 3d Pres ch,	\$1300 00	J. W. BENEDICT, Treasurer,	
Meadville Pres ch,	47 75	No. 128 Broadway, New York City.	
Belle Valley Pres ch,	25 81	Remittances should be forwarded to the Treas-	
Edinboro Pres ch,	17 00	urer,	
Harbor Creek Pres ch,	12 85	J. W. BENEDICT,	
West Nantmeal Pres ch,	10 00	123 Broadway, New York City.	
Philadelphia Cedar st Pres ch,	5 00	All other communications should be addressed	
OHIO.		to	
Cleveland 1st Pres ch,	\$140 51	Rev. JOHN G. ATTERBURY, D.D.,	
Cleveland Euclid st Pres ch,	136 14	General Secretary,	
Lane Seminary Pres ch,	115 10	150 Nassau St., New York.	
Granville Pres ch,	73 63		
Western Reserve Colored Pres ch,	45 00		
Ripley 1st Pres ch,	23 50	STEREOTYPED AND PRINTED BY ALFRED MARTEN.	

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